

***National Symposium on  
Germplasm to Genes: Harnessing Biotechnology  
for Food Security and Health***

August 9-11,2015  
New Delhi, India

**Organized by**

***Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology  
National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology, and  
Indian Agricultural Research Institute  
Pusa Campus, New Delhi***

**Venue: Pusa Campus, New Delhi, India**

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## Preamble

With the global population projected to touch 9.6 billion by 2050 and the climate change threatening agriculture, the challenge of meeting the demand for food and feed is daunting. The National Food Security Act 2013 of India puts extra onus on us for accelerating food production to meet the goal of making food available to the poor and needy. Thus emphasis on agricultural research, and development and adoption of farm technologies is imperative to enable sustained increase in farm productivity. Genetic improvement of plants, animals and other organisms including microbes that are part of the broad agricultural production system is expected to play a key role in this regard.

The dizzying pace of discoveries in biology in general and molecular biology in particular, and the imaginative innovations they are spawning hold great promise to face the above challenges. For instance, the discovery and refinement of the genome editing technologies in the past few years have opened opportunity for plant improvement which until recently was in the realm of imagination. Further, these technologies are likely to radically change our views and treatment of genetically modified crops. Similarly, the explosive growth of genomics data unleashed by the high-throughput sequencing technologies is challenging our ability to handle, comprehend and utilize the new information. It is critical, therefore, that we should quickly adapt and profit from these emerging technologies, and find the best solutions to our pressing problems of health, hunger, malnutrition and environmental degradation etc. India being one of the megacentres of plant diversity is well endowed with a rich diversity of flora and fauna. Whereas germplasm resources are being collected and conserved, their utilization has lagged behind. In this regard, modern biotechnological tools and genomic information could be applied for rapid and efficient characterization of germplasm. Further, biotechnology could be used to quickly put together the best combination of alleles into new varieties. Therefore, the present National Symposium '**Germplasm to Genes: Harnessing Biotechnology for Food Security and Health**' is proposed to review the latest developments in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology and to deliberate on strategies and action plans including policy interventions and investments, to keep pace with the latest developments. This will not only enable us to participate with the global community in the discovery and innovation but also make us technology competent and self-reliant. The past experience shows that in agriculture foreign technology cannot be directly supplanted and indigenization is most critical for success. Hence, the programmes are planned under the following Technical Sessions to cover various aspects.

## Technical Sessions

1. Genes, promoters and plant transgenics
  2. Genomics and bioinformatics
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3. **Plant development and stress biology**
4. **Emerging technologies**
5. **Genetic resources, allele mining and marker assisted breeding**
6. **Proteomics and plant metabolic engineering**
7. **IPR, biosafety, policy, education and training**

The symposium themes would be presented through the following formats:

- **Plenary lectures** by eminent scientists to provide a broad perspective of various thematic areas
  - **Invited lectures** by established specialists giving an in-depth and up-to-date analyses of specific topics
  - **Oral presentations** by young researchers selected from the abstracts received
  - **Posters presentations** by participants to showcase their recent/ongoing work and to provide a platform for personal interaction with other participants
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- **Language:** English will be official language of the Symposium

**Symposium duration:** August 9-11, 2015

**Venue:** Pusa Campus, New Delhi, India

The Symposium will be held on Pusa Campus New Delhi 110 012, India . The Pusa campus is located in the heart of New Delhi and is about 8 km from New Delhi Railway Station, 15 km and 20 km from the Indira Gandhi International Airport, Terminal I and Terminal III, respectively.

### **Important dates to remember**

Notice of intent	:	January 30, 2015
Submission of abstract	:	March 30, 2015
Acceptance of abstract	:	April 30, 2015

### **Registration**

The Symposium is open to the members of the Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology and for those who register. The details of registration fee are given below. The Registration form is enclosed and this may be filled in and sent along with the Demand Draft in favour of "Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology" payable at New Delhi.

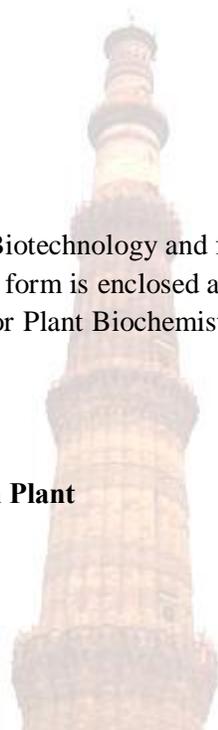
Mode of payment

Payment can also be made by bank transfer to the following address:

**Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology, National Research Centre on Plant Biotechnology, Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012, India**

SWIFT Code: SYNBINBB019 (MT 103)

Account No. : 90292010028510



IFSC Code: SYNB0009029

MICR Code: 110025041

Account name:" Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology"

Bank : Syndicate Bank, Pusa Campus, New Delhi- 110012, India

## Registration fee (non refundable/non transferable)

	Before June 30, 2015	Up to July 31, 2015 (with late fee)
SPBB Members	Rs. 4000	Rs. 5000
Non SPBB Members	Rs.5000	Rs. 6000
PG Students/Research Scholars /Research Associate*	Rs. 3000	Rs. 3500
Corporate Delegates	Rs.10000	Rs. 11000
Corporate Sponsor (Platinum)***	Rs 2.0 lakh	-
Corporate Sponsor (Gold) **	Rs.1.0lakh	-

\*Students/Research Scholar/Research Associate in Education Institution should submit eligibility document duly endorsed by the Head of the Department accompanied by photocopy of the ID Card. A few deserving students/scholars will be provided free registration provided they seek for the waiver.

The registration fee for the participants will cover participation in scientific sessions, the proceedings and other printed material of the meeting, lunches, dinners and tea/coffee during lecture breaks.

## Submission of abstract for oral/poster presentation

There will be scientific sessions on various topics identified for the symposium in the form of invited lectures and poster presentations. Abstracts of unpublished researches related to one of the Symposium themes are invited for oral presentation as well as poster papers. Abstracts should be submitted (via email only) in the prescribed format in about 200 words excluding title, affiliation etc. The abstracts should be strictly submitted through e-mail in MS Word.

## Abstract format

**Genes expressed in *Taiwania* reproductive organs include two male-cone protein 1 precursor homologs** - Fang-Hua Chu<sup>1</sup>, Chieh-Wen Shen<sup>1</sup>, Yi-Ru Lee & Shing-Rong Kuo<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Forestry and Resource Conservation, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan; <sup>2</sup>Experimental Forest, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan (e-mail: fhchu@ntu.edu.tw)

*Taiwania* (*Taiwania cryptomerioides* Hayata), a conifer native to Taiwan, is an economically important tree species due to its high resistance to insect infection and high wood utilization properties; however, when it was grown in clonal orchards, no filled seeds or fertile pollen were obtained. To address this reproductive dilemma, a suppressive subtractive hybridization.....

## Guidelines for preparing posters

A poster should be informative, attractive, well-organized and self explanatory. It should present a few major findings, its significance and implications; avoid presentation of too much data or elaborate explanations. The discussion should give the interpretation and significance of the results. Try to highlight one or two important conclusions. The following information may help you in your planning.

- **Size:** Use standard 3ft x 4ft (90 cm x 120 cm) poster paper, with the 30" (76 cm) edge along the top and bottom.
- **Text lettering:** Use typed or hand-printed letters that are visible from a distance. While typesetting the text, choose a sans-serif (simple) typeface. Use capitals and lower case standard type. Do not use all capital letters.
- **Text:** Give a brief (50 words) Introduction stating very clearly the purpose of the study followed by Material & Methods and Results. Minimize words while maximizing visuals. End with a brief (50 words) Conclusion clearly highlighting the major findings, its significance and implications.
- **Colours:** Use no more than three. Good two-colour combinations are, black on white, black on yellow, black on pink, dark on white, dark blue on white and dark blue on yellow. Dark colour on a light background is easiest to read.
- **Illustrations:** Photographs and graphics should be 5" x 7" (13 cm x 18 cm). Captions and labels on diagrams and graphs should be readable from 2 meters distance and not be cluttered with unnecessary details. Diagrams and graphs should have no more than two lines in contrasting colours. Use of only one vertical scale per graph is preferable to tables.
- **Organization:** The design should be sequential from one part to the next. Numbers or arrows may be used to help the eye move from item to item in the correct order: left to right, top to bottom. Do not clutter with either text or artwork.

*Please underline the name of the presenter and mention e-mail ID.*

## Second Circular

The second circular containing further information on programs, submission of abstracts, reservation of accommodation, registration and pre/post- Symposium tours will be sent only to those who send the **Notice of Intent**.

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## **About the city (Delhi) and places of tourist interest**

Delhi, the capital city of India, is one of India's fastest growing metropolitan cities is located on the west bank of the river Yamuna. The city has two distinct parts, Old Delhi and New Delhi.

Delhi has some of the finest museums in the country. Its boutiques and shopping arcades offer access to a wealth of traditional and contemporary crafts, from all over the country. It is one of the fastest expanding cosmopolitan cities in this part of the world. It represents a unique amalgam of ancient history with modernity. Magnificence of the relics of ancient (5000 years old) Hindu era, glory of Mughal Monuments and the grandeur of modern buildings and shopping centres constitute today's Delhi. The varied cultural activities offer myriad experiences, which speak of the unity in diversity of this country.

At a short distance from Delhi, 200 km south east is the famous city of Agra where Taj Mahal, one of the seven wonders of the modern world is located. About 260 km south west of Delhi is located the pink city of Jaipur, the glory of various kinds is beautifully reflected in the magnificence of its palaces. In the north of Delhi are picturesque ranges of the Himalayas, including the Kashmir valley, dreamland of the tourists.

The famous Tiger Reserve, the Corbett National Park is about 6 hrs drive from Delhi. The park is located at the hills of Kumaon and proves a unique experience of Elephant Safari. For bird watchers, the Keola Deo Ghana Bird Sanctuary at Bharatpur is about 180 km from Delhi. The Sanctuary harbours the most exquisite birds from all over the globe.

### **Weather**

August is usually rainy season in Delhi. The city experiences moderate rains and high humidity during these days.

### **Accommodation**

A wide range of accommodation varying from 5-star hotels to guesthouses will be available. The economy hotel tariffs near Pusa Campus range from Rs. 2500-3500. Limited accommodation may be available for the delegates in various Guest Houses on IARI campus.

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<b>Dr. S.L. Mehta</b>	<b>Dr. M.L. Lodha</b>	<b>Dr. Srinivasan</b>	<b>Dr. N. K. Singh</b>
President	Vice President	Vice President	Secretary

## Address for correspondence

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Organizing Secretaries

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